

# Tests Methods for Determination of Moisture Damage

**National** **MOISTURE SENSITIVITY** **Seminar**

*San Diego, California*  
*February 4-6, 2003*





**Mansour Solaimanian**  
**Pennsylvania State University**

**John Harvey**  
**University of California at Davis**

**Maghsoud Tahmoressi**  
**PaveTex Engineering & Testing**

**Vivek Tandon**  
**University of Texas at El Paso**



# Outline

---

- **Historical Development**
- **Types of Tests**
- **Description of Tests**
- **Significance and Use**
- **Summary**





# Historical Development



# Historical Development

---

**Dates back to 1930's:**

**Nicholson**

**Riedel & Weber**

**Lee**

**McLeod**

**Hubbard**

**Powers**

**Winterkorn**

**Saville & Axon (Boil Test)**

**Nevitt & Krchma**



# Historical Development

## 1940's:

**Krchma and Nevitt (Absorption Effects)**

**Hveem (awareness)**

## 1950's:

**Hallberg (Water Pressure – Pore Size Effect)**

**Rice (Aggregate Characteristics – ASTM STP 240)**

**Thelen (Surface Energy – HRB 192)**

**Andersland and Goetz (Sonic Test)**

**Goode (Immersion Compression)**



# Historical Development

## 1960's:

**Majidzadeh and Brovold (State of the Art)**

**Johnson (Thermally Induced Pore Pressure)**

## 1970's:

**Ford (Surface Reaction Test)**

**Jimenez (Pore Pressure – Double Punch)**

**Lottman (Freeze-Thaw, Indirect Tensile)**

**Maupin (Implementation)**

**Plancher et al (Asphalt Chemistry)**

**Schmidt and Graf (Resilient Modulus)**



# Historical Development

---

## 1980's:

**Plancher et al (Freeze-Thaw Pedestal Cycling)**

**Copplantz and Newcomb (Comparison of Tests)**

**Isacsson and Jorgnesen**

**Kennedy, Anagnus, Roberts, Lee (Boil, Freeze-Thaw Pedestal)**

**Tunnickliff and Root (Indirect Tensile)**

**Collins, Lai (Asphalt Pavement Analyzer)**

**Parker (Evaluation of Tests)**

**Stuart (Evaluation of Tests)**





# Historical Development

## 1990's:

**Hicks, Terrel, Scholz, Al-Swailmi (ECS)**

**Aschenbrenner, Tahmoressi (HWTD)**

**Tandon (Modified ECS)**

**Curtis, Ensley, Epps (Net Adsorption Test)**

**Kendhal (Plastic Fines, MBT)**

**Youtcheff (Pneumatic Pull-Off)**



# Historical Development

**2000's:**

**Harvey, Monismith, and Bejarano (APT-Field Testing)**

**Cheng, Little, Lytton, Holtse (Surface Energy)**

**Robertson, Thomas. ... (Asphalt Chemistry, Ultrasonic, Centrifugation)**

**Solaimanian, Tandon, Bonaquist (SPT/ECS)**

**Mallick, Regimand (Cyclic Pressure/Suction)**



# **Historical Development**

---

**Boil Test (1930's, 1980's)**

**Immersion Compression (1950's)**

**Freeze-Thaw Conditioning with Strength Test (1970's, 80's)**

**Freeze-Thaw Pedestal Test ( 1980's)**

**Hamburg Wheel Tracking Device (1970's, 1990's)**

**Asphalt Pavement Analyzer (1980's, 1990's)**

**Environmental Conditioning System (SHRP, 1990's)**

**ECS/SPT (2000's)**





# Types of Tests



# Types of Tests

## ➤ Two Major Categories

- ✓ Tests on Loose Asphalt-Aggregate Mixtures
- ✓ Tests on Compacted Specimens



# Tests on Loose Mixtures

## Examples:

**Boil, Static/Dynamic Immersion, Rolling Bottle**

## Advantages:

**Simpler Equipment, Simpler Procedure, Less Costly,  
Screening for Compatibility**

## Disadvantages:

**Results mostly qualitative  
Subjective Interpretation (evaluator's experience)  
Not taking into consideration traffic, environment,  
and mix properties**



# Tests on Compacted Mixtures

## Examples:

Immersion-Compression,  
Freeze-Thaw Cyclic with Strength/Modulus Measurement

## Advantages:

Taking into consideration traffic, environment,  
and mix properties  
Results can be quantified

## Disadvantages:

More elaborate testing equipment  
Longer Testing Time  
More laborious test procedure  
More expensive



# Tests on Loose Material

Test Method				ASTM	AASHTO
Methylene Blue Static Immersion Dynamic Immersion Chemical Immersion Surface Reaction Boiling Rolling Bottle				D 1664	T 182
				D 3625	
Net Adsorption					
Surface Energy					
Pneumatic Pull-Off					
Ultrasonic					





# Tests on Compacted Specimens

Test Method	ASTM	AASHTO
Moisture Vapor Susceptibility	D 1075	T 165
Immersion Compression		
Marshall Immersion		
Freeze-Thaw Pedestal		
Original Lottman	D 4867	T 283
Modified Lottman		
Root-Tunnicliff		
Cyclic Pressure/Double Punch		
ECS/Res. Mod.		
Hamburg Wheel Tracking		
Asphalt Pavement Analyzer		
Beam Fatigue		
ECS/SPT		
Ultrasonic		





# Test Methods



# Test Methods

## Methylene Blue Test

- ✓ French test
- ✓ ISSA recommendation
- ✓ Quantify amount of harmful clay in fine agg.
- ✓ Higher MBV → Higher Clay Content  
Higher Susceptibility to Moisture Damage
- ✓ Relatively good correlation with TSR and SIP  
(Kendhal, 1998)



# Test Methods

## Static Immersion (AASHTO T 182) (ASTM D 1664)

100 grams of uniform size aggregate  
(6.3 – 9.5 mm)

Coat with binder

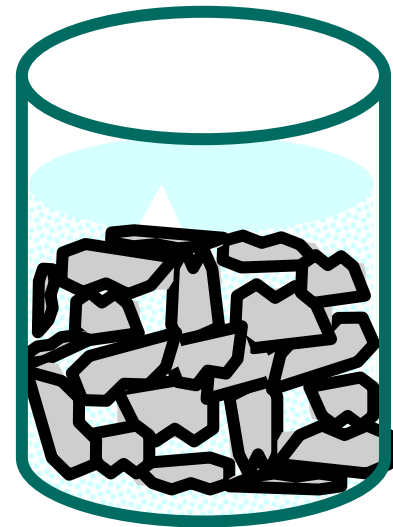
Cure at 60°C for 2 hrs

Cover in jar with distilled water

Remain immersed for 16-18 hours

Conduct visual inspection

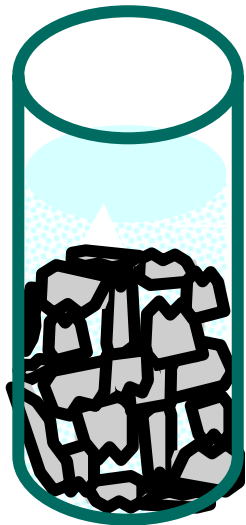
Criteria: 95 percent retained coating



# Test Methods

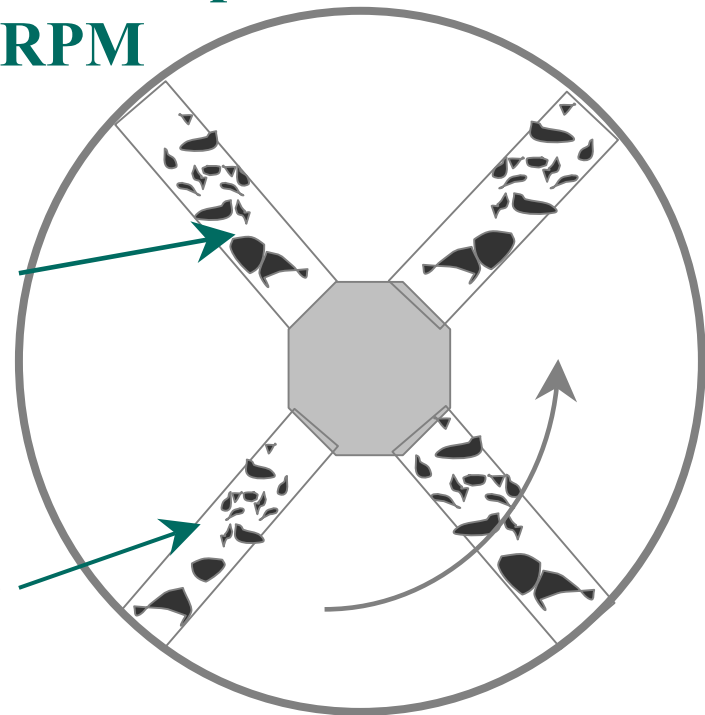
## Film Strip Test (CA Test 302)

Cure coated aggregate at 60°C for 15-18 hrs  
Cover in jar with distilled water and cap  
Rotate the jar for 15 min. at 35 RPM  
Conduct visual inspection



Asphalt Coated  
Aggregate  
and Water

Capped Jar



# Test Methods

## Boil Test (ASTM D 3625)

**250 grams of coated aggregate**

**Place in boiling water**

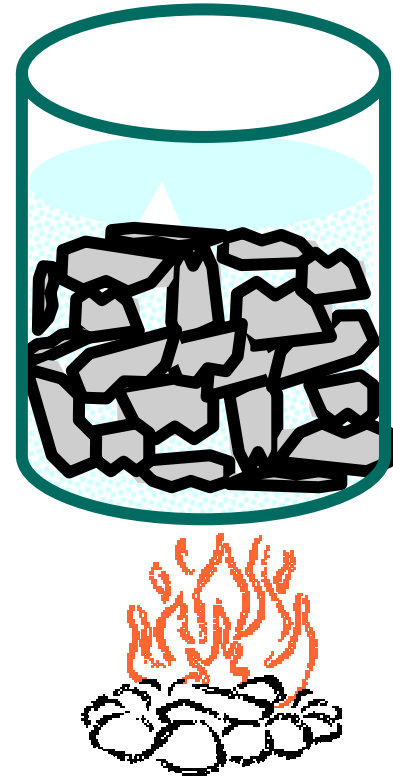
**Bring water back to boiling**

**Maintain boiling for 10 minutes**

**Cool to room temp. and decant water**

**Empty on white paper towel**

**Conduct visual inspection**



# Test Methods

## Net Adsorption Test (SHRP A-341, A-402)

**50 grams of aggregate passing #4 sieve**

**Dry aggregate in a 135°C oven for 15 hours**

**Adsorb asphalt into aggregate from toluene solution**

**Apply water**

**Desorb asphalt from aggregate**

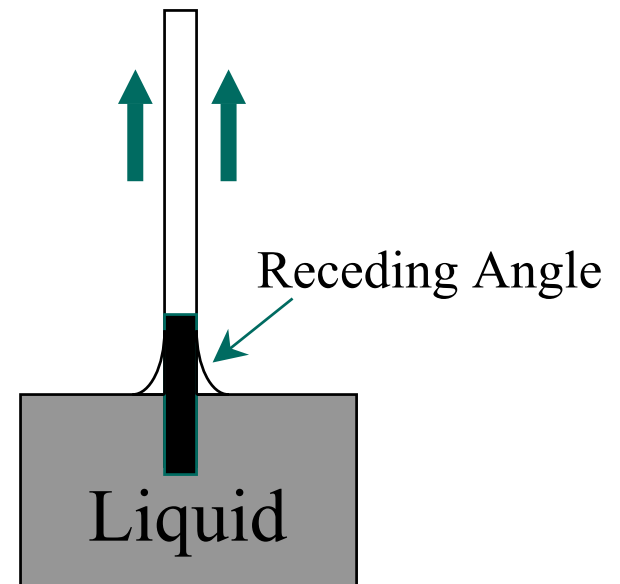
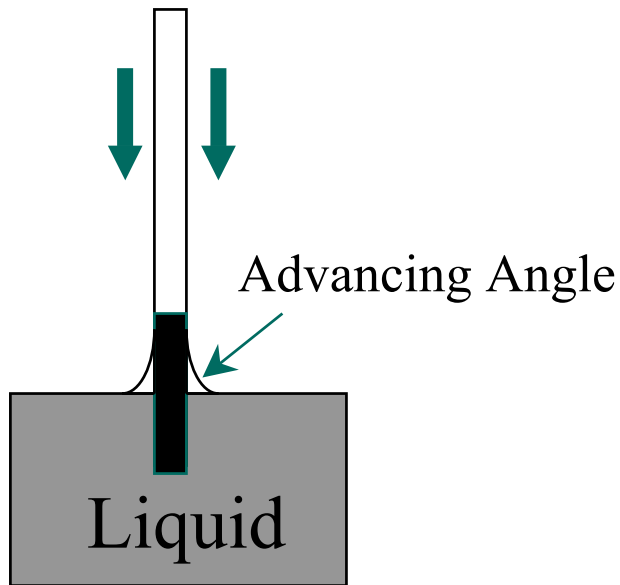
**Determine net adsorption**



# Test Methods

## Surface Free Energy

### Wilhelmy Plate Test (SFE for Asphalt Binder) (DingXin, Little, Lytton, and Holtse, 2002)



### Universal Sorption Device (SFE for Aggregate)





# Test Methods

---

## Surface Reaction Test

Chemical reaction between agg. surface and agent creating pressure

## Ultrasonic Test

Both on loose and compacted mixtures

## Pneumatic Pull-Off

Determine binder adhesion to a glass plate



# Test Methods

---

## For Surface Treatments

**Immersion Tray Test**

**Plate Test**

**Sand Mix Test**



# Test Methods

## Freeze-Thaw Pedestal Test

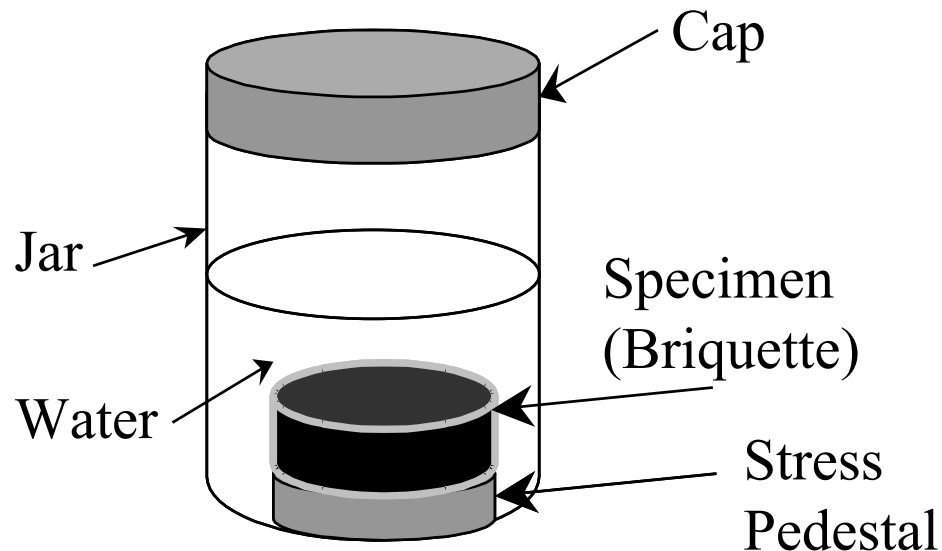
Uniform size aggregate (0.50 – 0.85 mm)

Two hours curing at 150°C before compaction

Compact under 28 kN to 19 mm X 41 mm

Cure for three days at room temp.

Thermal Cycling –12°C (15 hrs), 49°C (9 hrs)



# Test Methods

## Immersion Compression

**Goode (1950's)**

**ASTM D 1075, AASHTO T 165**

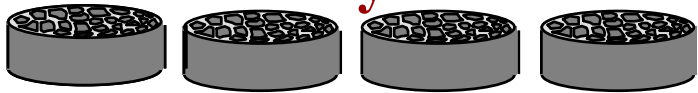
**Compressive Strength Ratio**



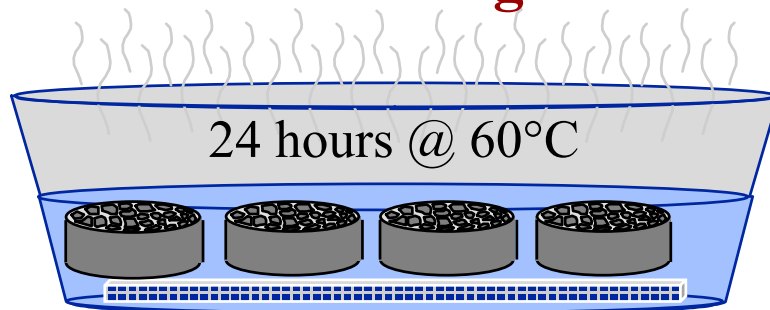
# Test Methods

## Immersion Compression

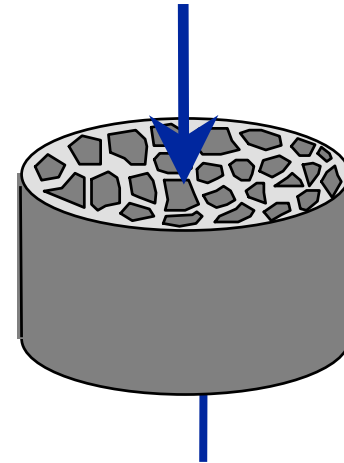
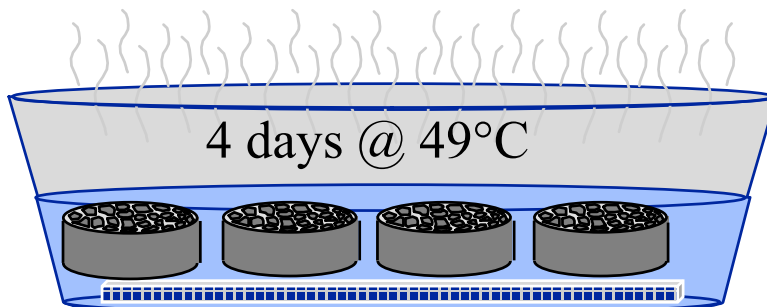
**Dry**



**Conditioning**



**OR**



**Specimens:**  
**101 x 101 mm**  
**Approx. 6% Voids**

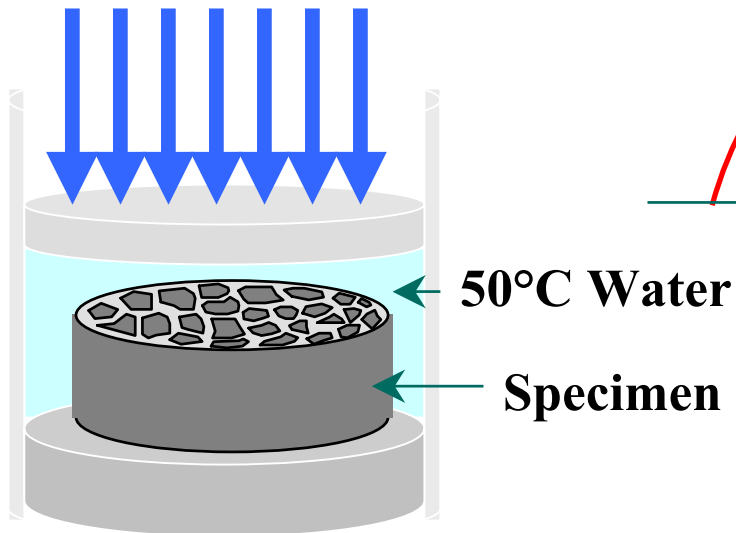
**Index of Ret. Strength =  $S_2/S_1$**



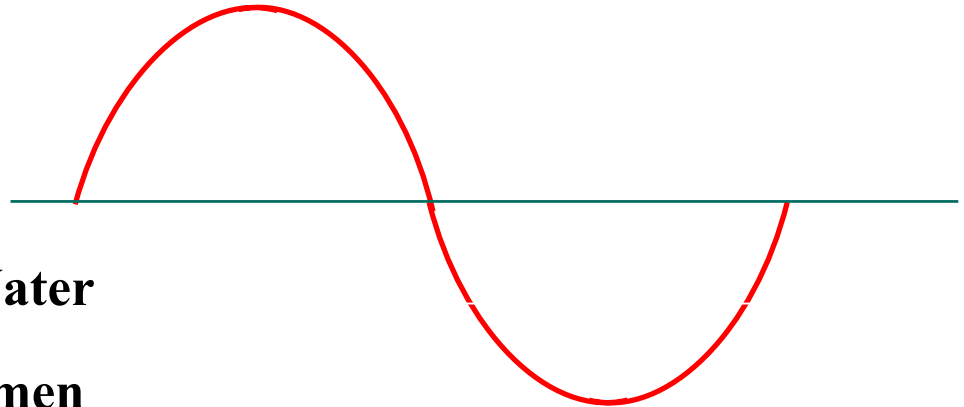
# Test Methods

## Cyclic Water Pressure with Strength Test (Jimenez, 1974)

### Cyclic Pressure



### Sinusoidal Loading (Hydraulic Pressure 5-30 psi)



# Test Methods

## Double Punch Test (Jimenez, 1974)

Test Temp.: 25°C

Derform. Rate: 25 mm/min

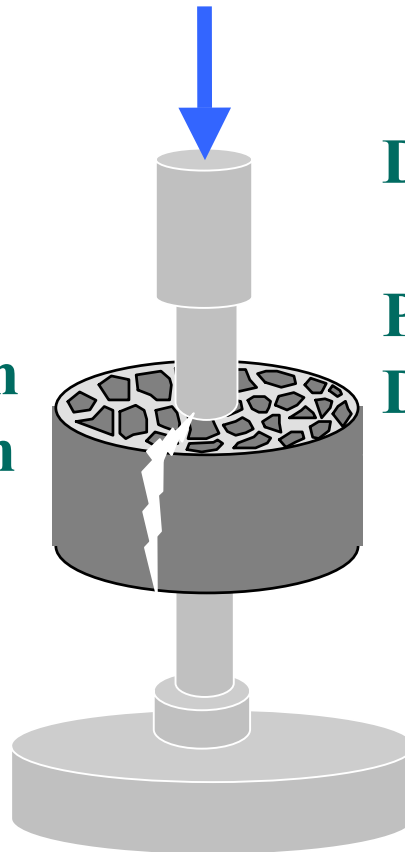
Specimen Size:

H: 50, 101, 203 mm

D: 50, 101, 152 mm

Punch Diameter:

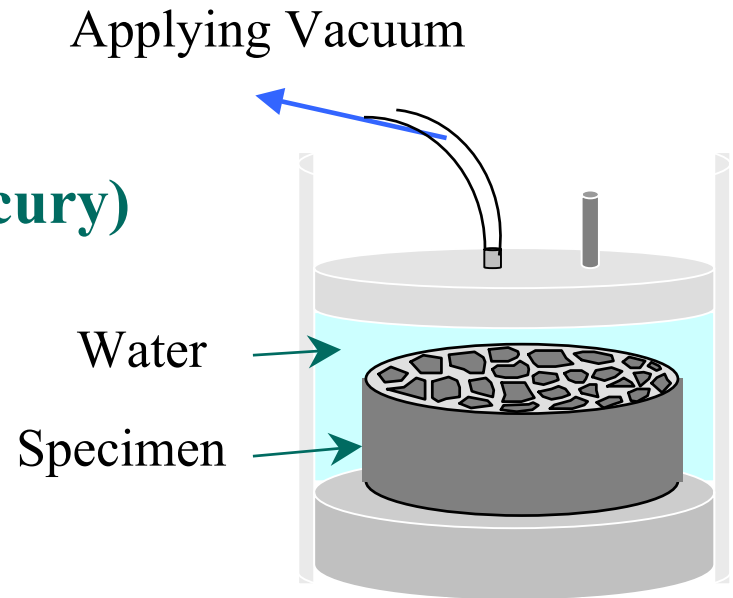
D: 10, 16, 24 mm



# Test Methods

## Original Lottman Test (NCHRP 192, 1978) (NCHRP 246, 1982)

**Conditioning**  
(Vacuum Saturation –  
30 minutes under 4 inches of mercury)

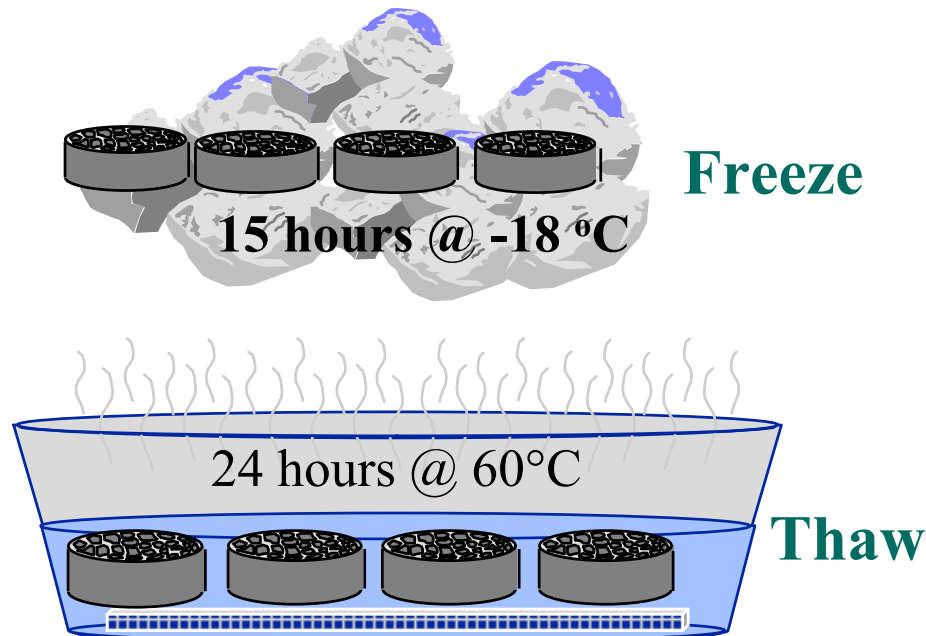




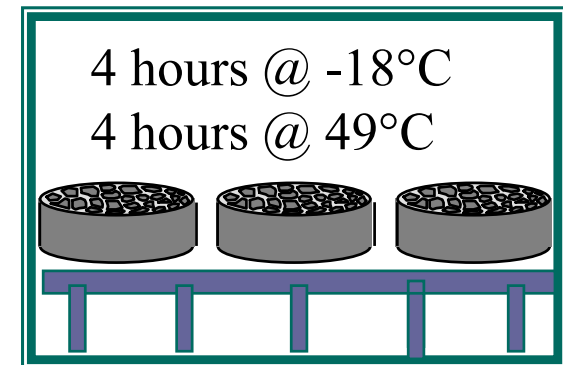
# Test Methods

## Original Lottman Test

### Conditioning (Freeze-Thaw)



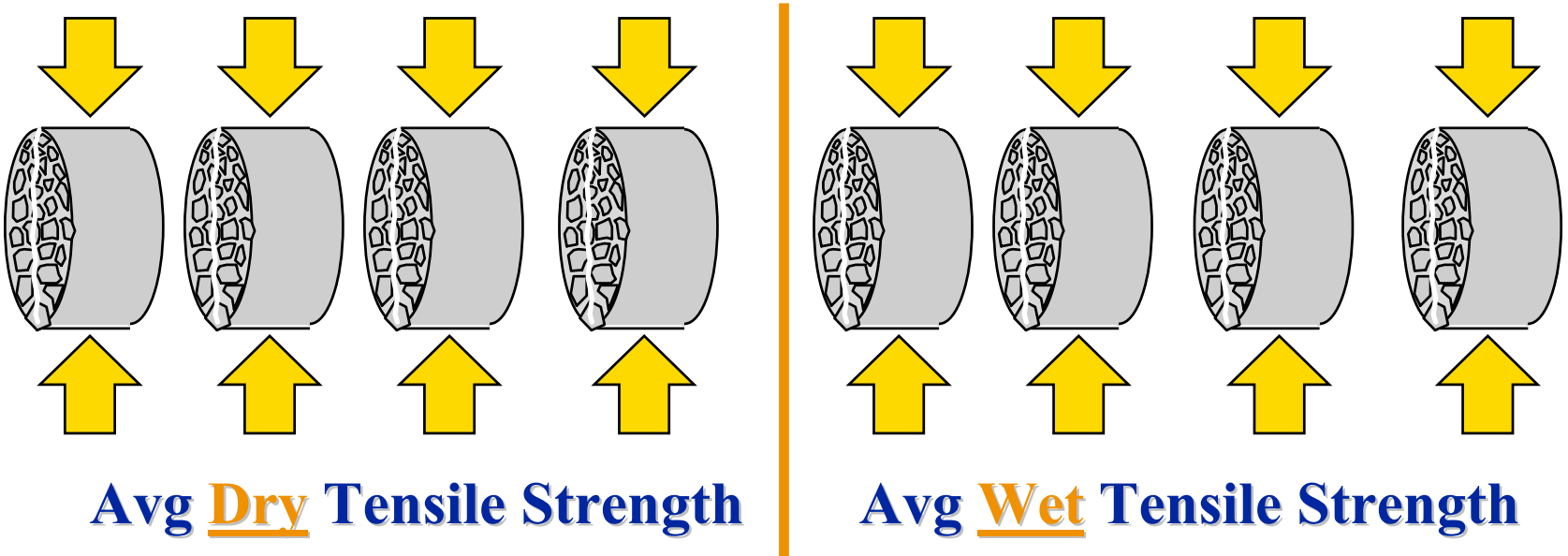
### Conditioning (Thermal Cycling) For 18 Cycles



# Test Methods

## Original Lottman

*(1.7 mm/ min @ 13°C OR 3.8 mm/ min @ 23°C)*



$$\text{TSR} = \frac{\text{Wet}}{\text{Dry}} \geq 70 \%$$

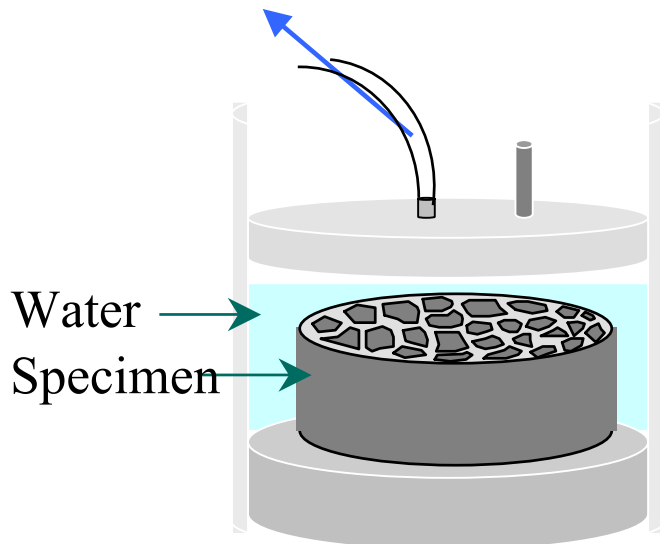


# Test Methods

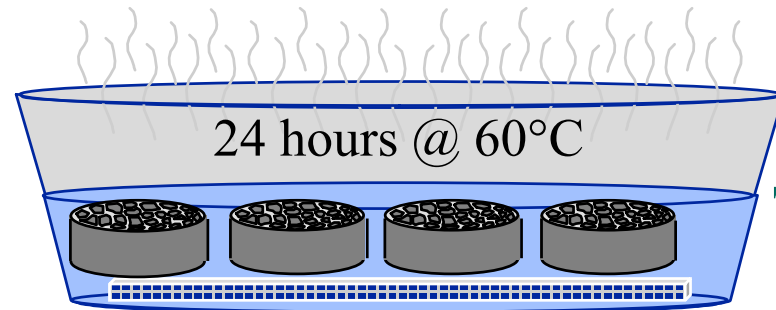
## Modified Lottman Test (AASHTO T 283)

### Conditioning (Freeze-Thaw)

Applying Vacuum  
55 to 80% Sat. (70 to 80%?)



**Freeze**



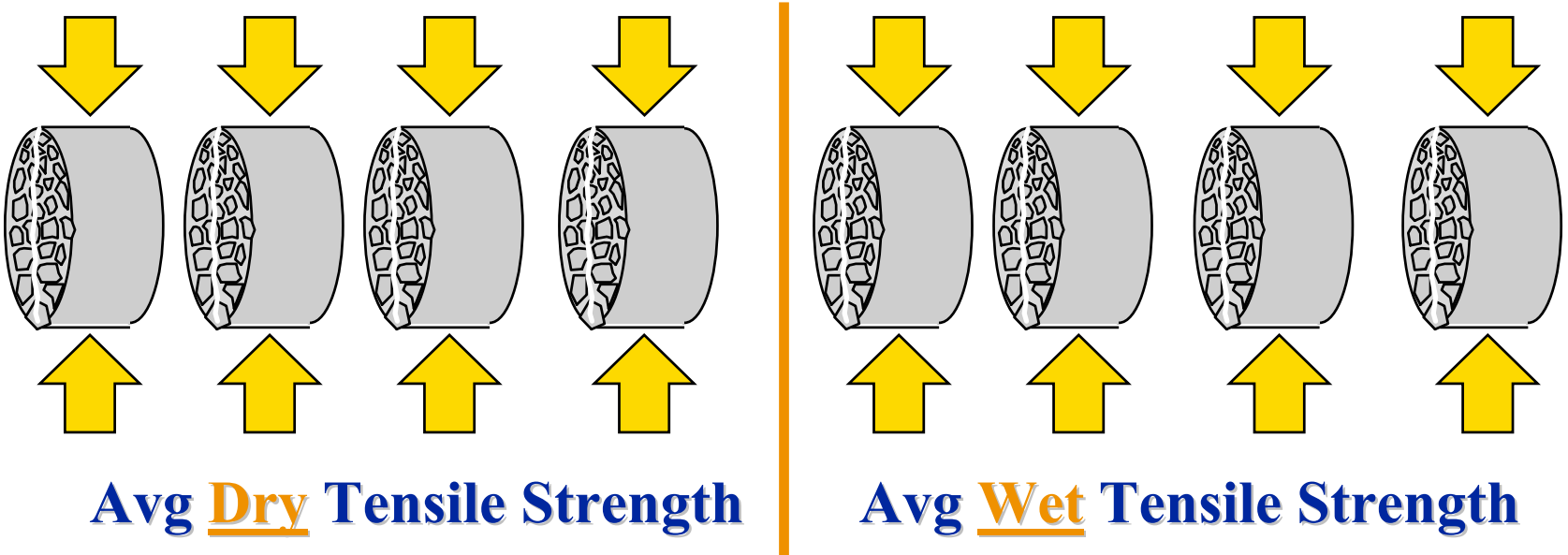
**Thaw**



# Test Methods

## Modified Lottman Test (AASHTO T 283)

*51 mm / min @ 25 °C*



$$\text{TSR} = \frac{\text{Wet}}{\text{Dry}} \geq 80 \%$$



# Test Methods

## Hamburg Wheel Tracking Device (HWTd)

### ➤ TxDOT Procedure

- ✓ ½" Rut Depth
- ✓ Test Temp.: 50 °C
- ✓ # of Passes: 20,000



# Test Methods

## Hamburg Wheel Tracking Device (HWTd)

**Two  
Cylindrical  
Specimens**



# Test Methods

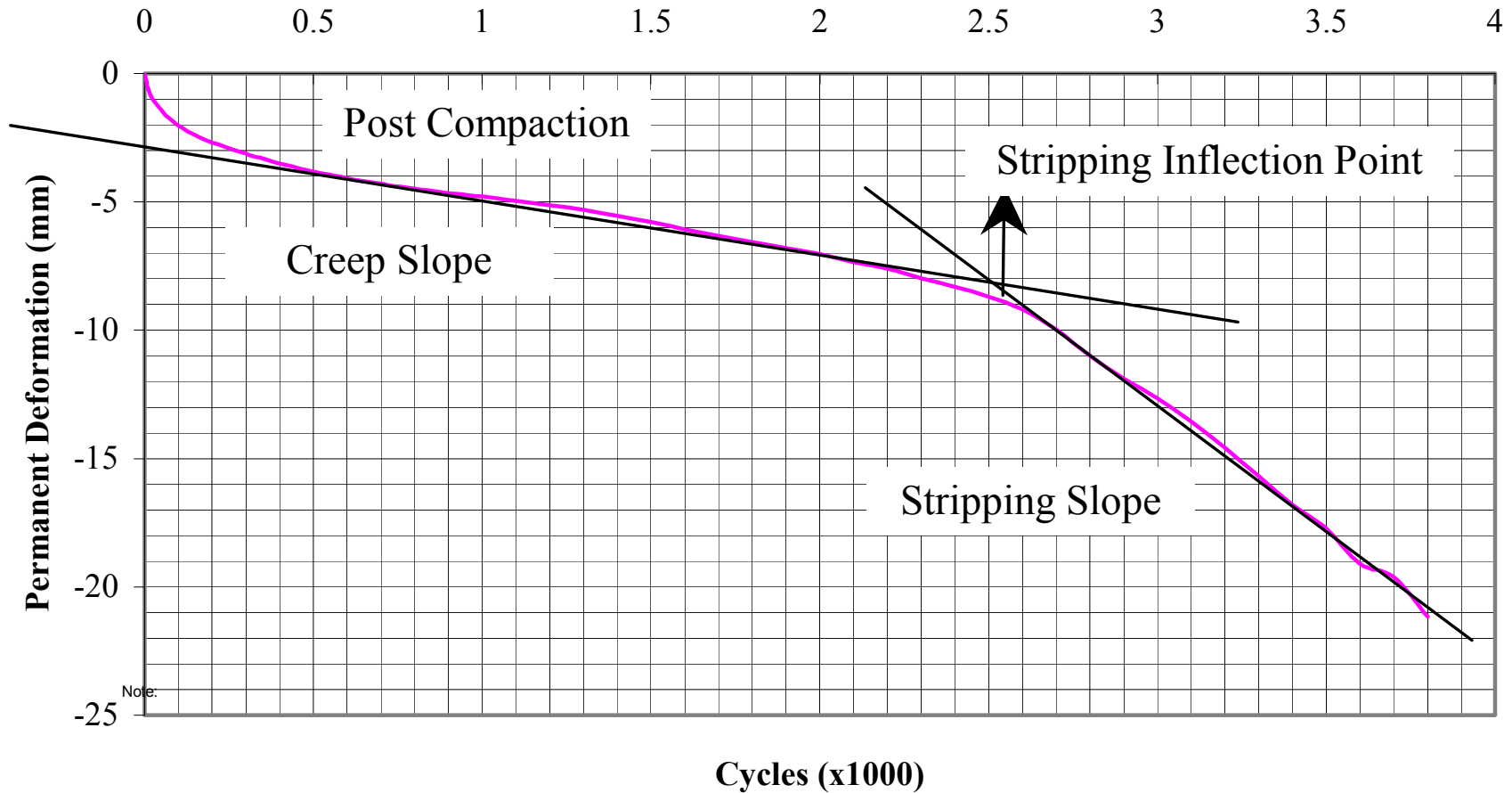
## Hamburg Wheel Tracking Device (HWTd)





# Test Methods

## Hamburg Wheel Tracking Device (HWTd)



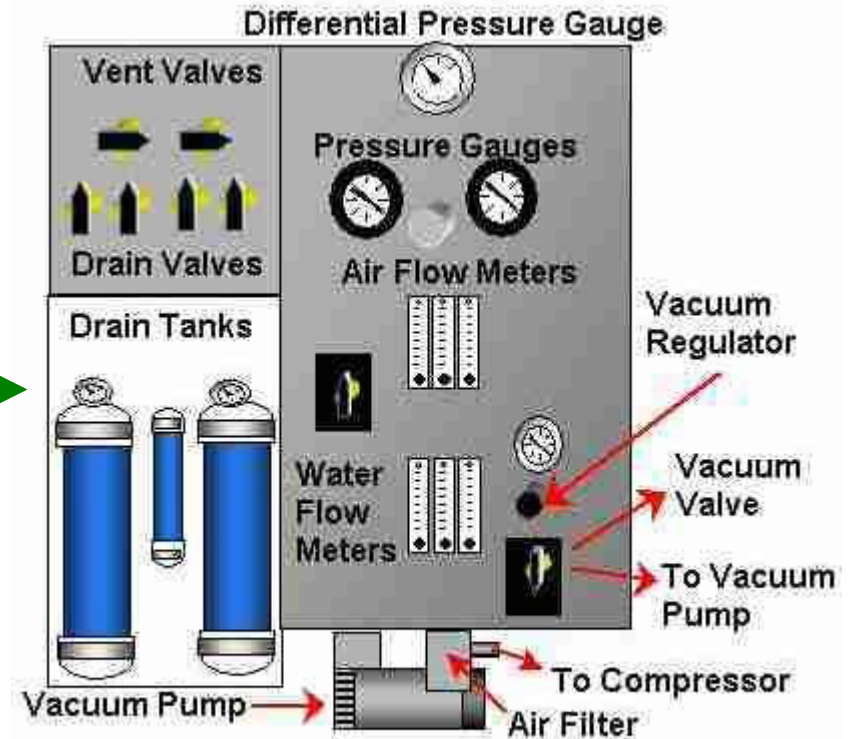


# Test Methods

## ECS/SPT System



**SPT**  
(Simple Performance Test)

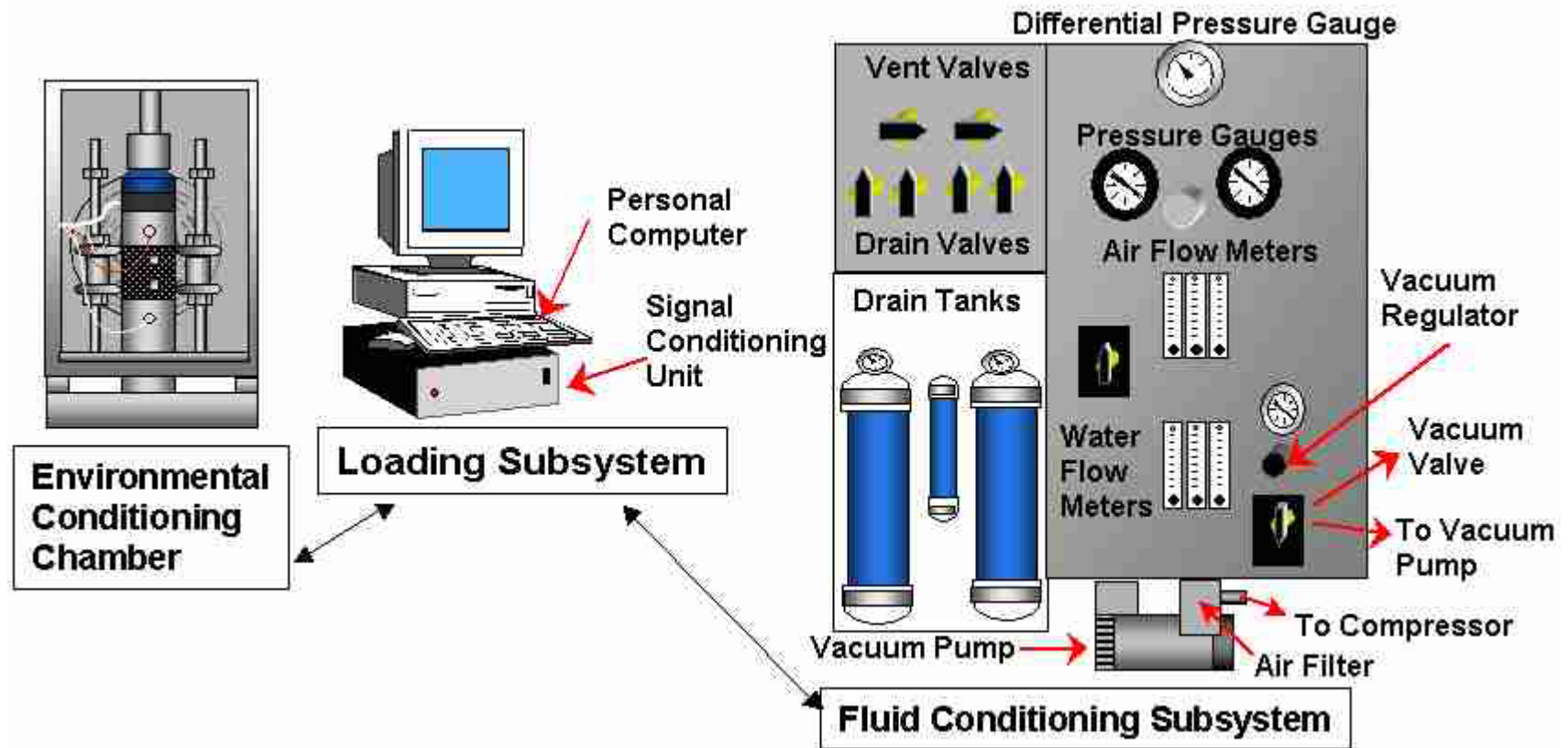


**ECS – Subsystem**  
Environmental Conditioning System



# Test Methods

## Environmental Conditioning System



# Test Methods

## ECS/SPT System

- **ECS Developed at OSU as part of SHRP A-003A**
- **SHRP Period 1987-1993**
- **Improved at UTEP under TxDOT Project**
  - ✓ **Repeatability**
  - ✓ **Rigidity**
  - ✓ **Strain Measuring System**
  - ✓ **Controlling Water Temperature**
  - ✓ **Confining Pressure**



# Current ECS Testing

## Measure Resilient Modulus before and after Conditioning

- **Specimen Size: Dia: 100 mm, H: 100 mm**
- **Conditioning Temperature** 60 °C
- **Confining Pressure** 2.5 inches of mercury
- **Conditioning Time** 6-18 hours
- **Conditioning Load** 200 lbs
- **Haversine Load**
  - ✓ 50 to 100 Microstrain
  - ✓ 0.1 sec loading period – 0.9 sec rest period



# Test Methods

## Simple Performance Tests



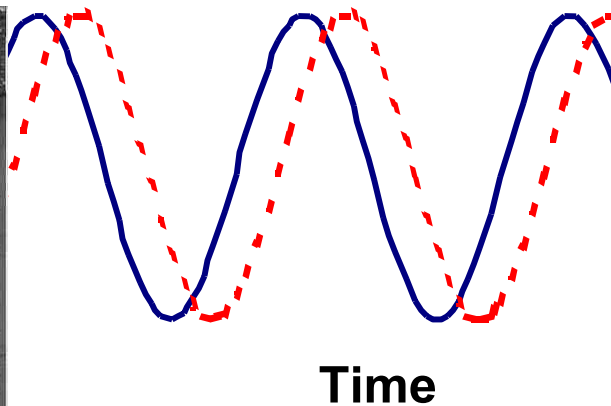
### Candidate Tests

- **Dynamic Modulus**
- **Creep Test (Flow Time Test)**
- **Repeated Load Test (Flow Number Test)**



# Test Methods

## Dynamic Modulus Test



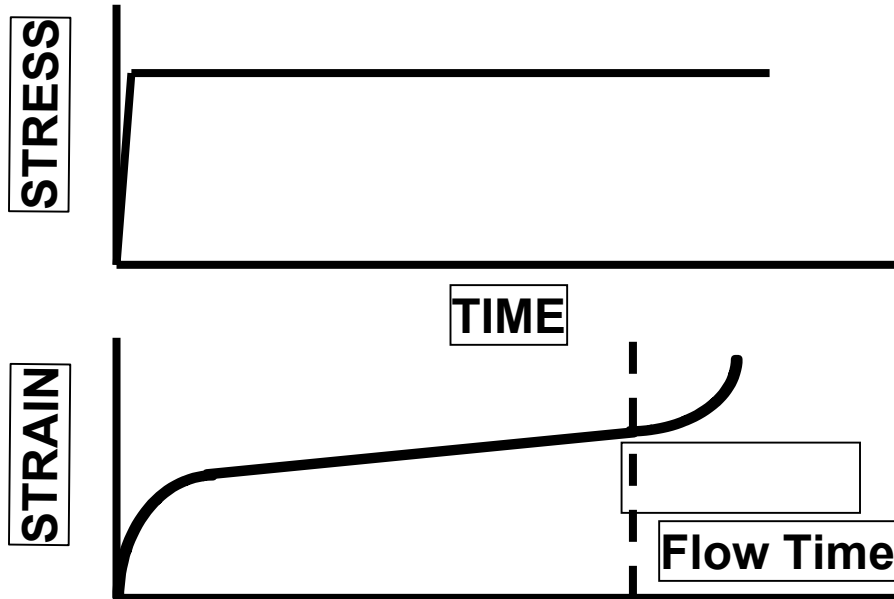
$$|E^*| = \frac{\sigma_0}{\epsilon_0}$$

**Rutting**  
**Fatigue Cracking**



# Test Methods

## Creep Flow Time Test



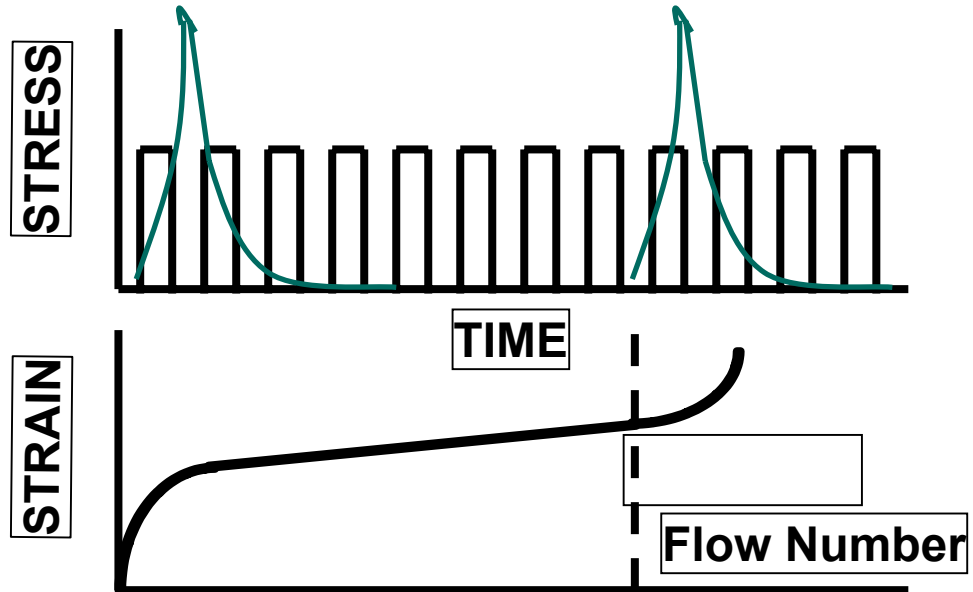
**Rutting**





# Test Methods

## Repeated Load Perm. Deformation Test



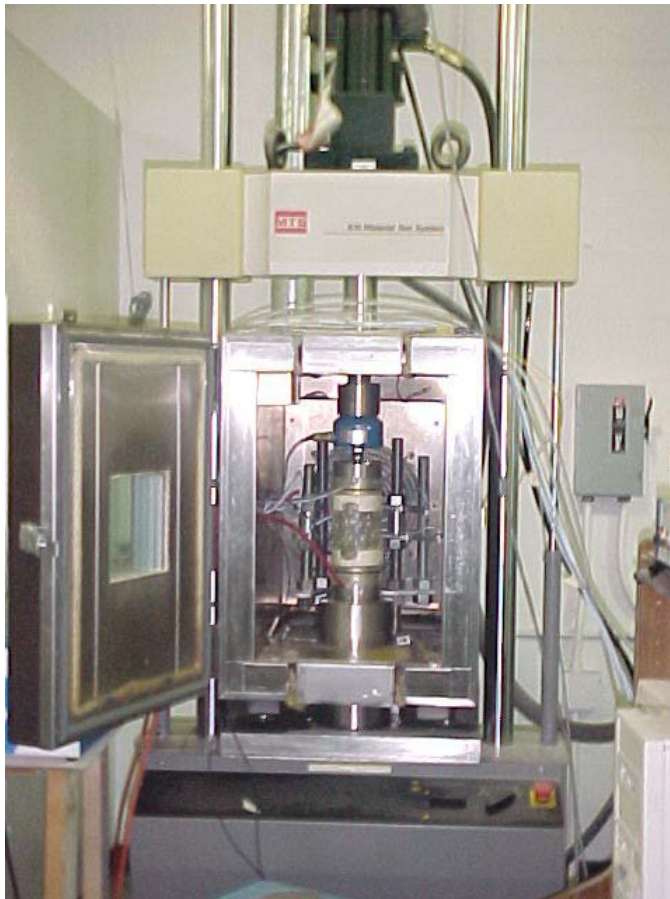
**Rutting**





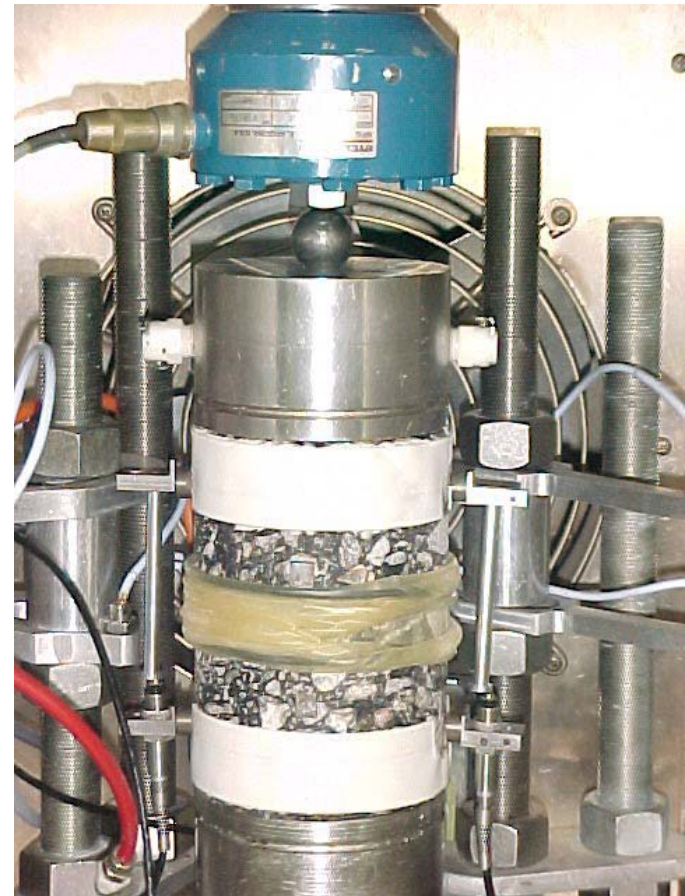
# Test Methods

## ECS/SPT System



# Test Methods

## ECS/SPT System





# Using Tests And Their Significance



# Tests in Use

## Before SHRP

Test Method	No. of Agencies
Boiling Water (ASTM D 3625)	9
Static Immersion	3
Original Lottman	3
Modified Lottman (AASHTO T 283)	9
Tunnickliff-Root (ASTM D 4867)	9
Immersion Compression (AASHTO T 165)	11

## After Hicks (1991)



# Tests in Use

## After SHRP

Test Method	No. of Agencies
Boiling Water (ASTM D 3625)	0
Static Immersion	0
Original Lottman	3
Modified Lottman (AASHTO T 283)	30
Tunnichliff-Root (ASTM D 4867)	6
Immersion Compression (AASHTO T 165)	5
Wheel Tracking	2

## After Aschenbrenner (2002)



# Success of Tests

Test Method	Criteria	% Success
Boiling Water	Ret. Coat. = 85-90%	58
Modified Lottman	TSR = 70%	67
	TSR = 80%	76
Tunnickliff-Root	TSR=70%	60
	TSR=80%	67
Immersion Compression	Ret. Strength=75%	47

After Kiggundu and Roberts (1988)





# **Key Items for A Successful Test**

---

## ➤ **Key Items for a Successful Test**

- ✓ **Repeatable and Reproducible**
- ✓ **Feasible, Practical, Economical**
- ✓ **Good Discriminator**
- ✓ **Good Simulator of Field Mechanisms**



# Implementation

## ➤ Calibration to Field Conditions

- ✓ Success/Failure is Site Dependent
- ✓ Important Issue Is Correlation
- ✓ Develop Database – Mix, Traffic, Structure Data
- ✓ Quantifying Field Performance Is Difficult





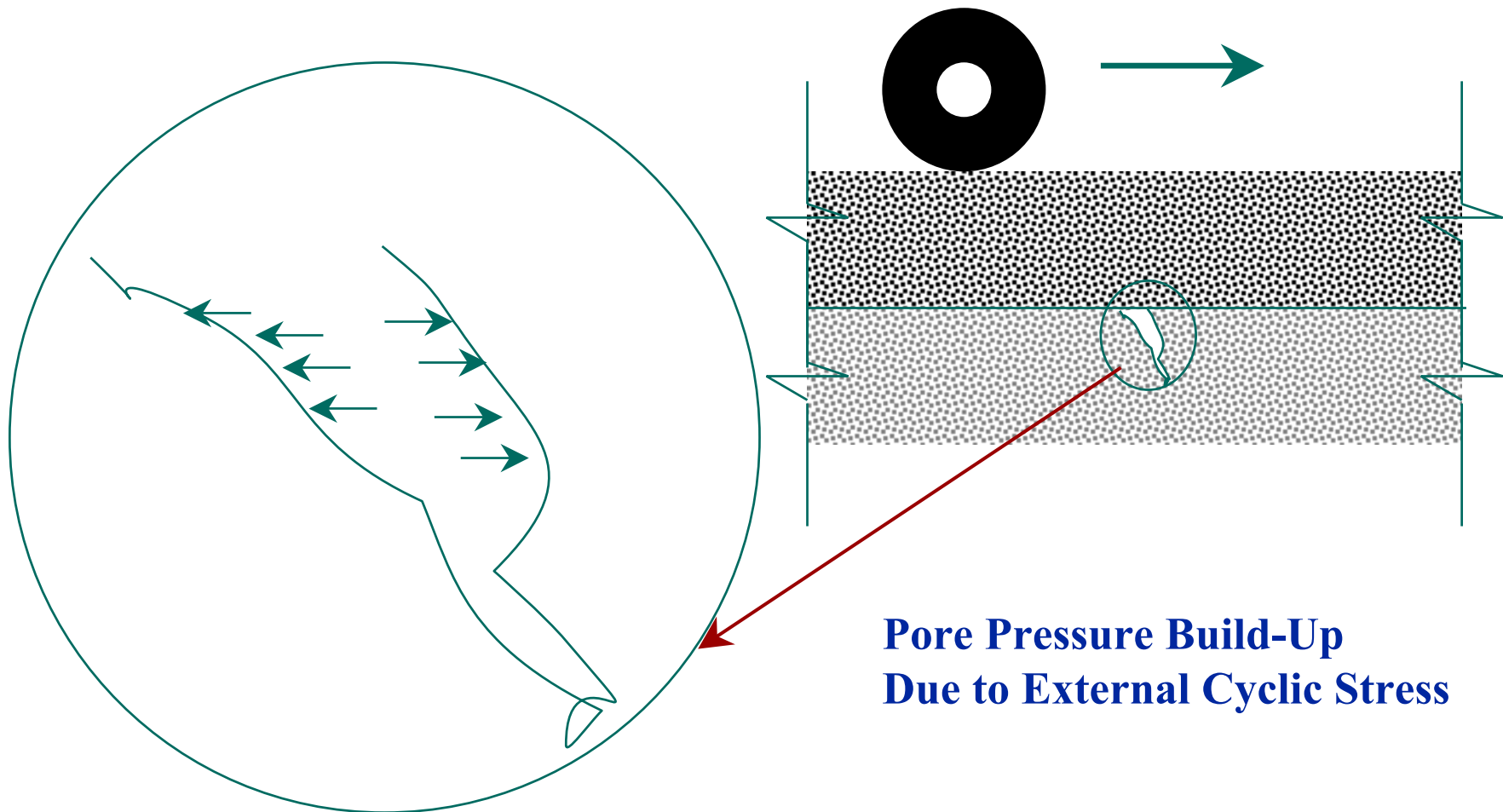
# What Is Important?

**compatibility, mix, traffic, and environment**

- ✓ **Binder Content**
- ✓ **Binder Stiffness**
- ✓ **Air Void Level and Size**
- ✓ **Connectivity of Voids**
- ✓ **Traffic Effect: Pumping & Hydrostatic Pressures**



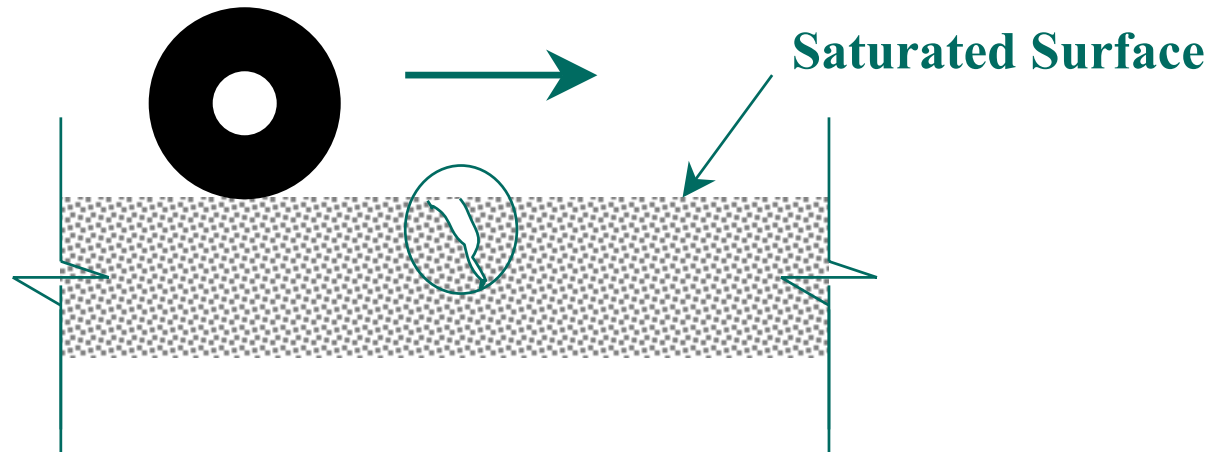
# Pore Pressure Effect



**Pore Pressure Build-Up  
Due to External Cyclic Stress**



# Hydraulic Scouring



**Compression/Tension Cycle**

**Stripping Starts at the Surface  
Progressing Downward**





# Summary



# Summary

- **Research on Moisture Damage Tests: 1930's**
- **Two Types of Tests Have Been Developed:**
  - ✓ **On loose mixture and materials**
  - ✓ **On compacted specimens**
- **Tests on Loose Mixtures**
  - ✓ **Good for initial screening**
  - ✓ **Relative success of various antistripping agents**
- **Tests on Compacted Specimens**
  - ✓ **Some capture field conditions better than others**



# Summary (Cont'd)

- **AASHTO T 283 Is Currently the most Widely Used Procedure**
- **Loaded Wheel Testers Are Gaining Considerable Popularity**
- **Field Conditions Are Important – No Universal Protocol Can Be Applied to All Conditions**
- **Tests Should Be Calibrated for Field Conditions**





*Thank You!*

